

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel originally-filed claims 1-25, without prejudice. In addition, please add new claims 26 and 27, as provided below. The listing of these claims are as follows:

Claims 1-25 (cancelled).

26. (New) A maraca comprising:

a maraca body;

a maraca handle connected to the maraca body; and

a bottle cap opener connected to the maraca handle.

27. (New) The maraca of claim 26, wherein the bottle cap opener is incorporated into the maraca handle.

**REMARKS**

This Preliminary Amendment amends the originally-filed specification of the above-referenced U.S. application, via a substitute specification, to refer to and claim priority from the underlying U.S. Patent Application No. 09/865,349 filed on May 25, 2001, (the "Patent Application") and from U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/289,938, filed on May 9, 2001. A marked-up comparison illustrating changes between the originally-filed specification and the substitute specification is enclosed herewith.

In addition, originally-filed claims 1-25 of the underlying U.S. Patent Application No. 09/865,349 have been cancelled without prejudice, and new claims 26-27 have been added to continue prosecuting Claims 72 and 73 cancelled during the prosecution of the Parent Application.